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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

NOVEL POLYMER COMPOUNDS

the specification of which was

- filed on **August 23, 2000**
 Application Serial No: **09/644,121**

We hereby Declare that the subject matter was part of our invention and was invented before the filing date.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

We acknowledge a duty of good faith and candor, including a duty to disclose all information known to us, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

PRIORITY CLAIM

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 (a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:



Prior Foreign Application(s)

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Country</u> | Date Filed (<u>mo/day/year</u>) | Priority Claimed (<u> </u>) |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|---------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| <u>Application</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Serial No.</u> | |
| 09/256,484 | February 23, 1999 |

We declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

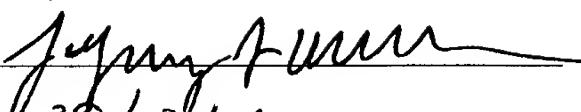
POWER OF ATTORNEY:

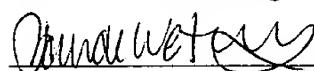
As named inventors, we hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

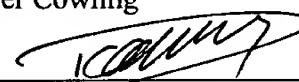
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